

People on the Move

Human Resources reports the following personnel changes as of August 2:

New Management Assignments

David Petri was named Deputy of the Guidance, Navigation and Control Development and Test Branch in the Engineering Directorate.

Reassignments Between Directorates

Roberto Moolchan moves from the Safety Reliability and Quality Assurance Office to the Mission Operations Directorate as a emergency operations engineer. Susan J. Anderson moves from the Engineering Directorate to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer as a voucher examiner. Patsy LeBlanc moves from the Engineering Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program as a secretary. Deana Hackfeld moves from the Information Systems Directorate to the International Space Station Program Office as a configuration management engineer. Matt Leonard moves from the EVA Project Office to the International Space Station Program Office as a launch package engineer. Jeffrey Theall moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Space and Life Sciences Directorate as a space scientist.

Additions to the Workforce

Brad Files joins the Manufacturing, Materials, and Process Technology Division in the Engineering Directorate as a materials research engineer. Christopher Johnson joins the Structures and Mechanics Division in the Engineering Directorate as an aerospace engineer. Deborah Stephens joins the Flight Systems Safety and Mission Assurance Office in the Safety Reliability and Quality Assurance Office as an aerospace engineer. Patricia Hilliard joins the Medical Sciences Division in the Space and Life Sciences Directorate as a medical officer. David Baumann joins the Science Payloads Management Office in the Space and Life Sciences Directorate as an aerospace engineer.

Reassignments to Other Centers

Julie Bassler of the International Space Station Program Office moves to Marshall Space Flight Center.

Edward Stanton of the International Space Station Program Office moves to Ames Research Center.

Resignations

Carol Sanders of the Business Management Directorate. Mark Villemarette of the Engineering Directorate. Donna Lee of the Space Shuttle Program Office.

Parker heads JPL management

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"I'm extremely pleased to be able to be a part of the exciting projects at this outstanding institution," said Parker, who will serve as director for a nominal three-year term.

Born in New York City, Parker received an undergraduate degree in astronomy from Amherst College in 1958 and a doctorate in astrono-

my from the California Institute of Technology in 1962. Before joining NASA, Parker was an assistant/associate professor of astronomy at the University of Wisconsin in Madison from 1963 to 1967. Parker is the author of more than a dozen technical papers on astrophysics, and has received three major NASA leadership medals.



JSC Photo

From left, STS-94 Lead Flight Director Rob Kelso congratulates Shuttle Pointer Scott Patano, Ray Barrington of Draper Labs and Guidance Navigation and Controller Kevin Dunn for their work on a special team that developed a new technique to minimize the impacts to the microgravity science lab in the event a vernier thruster became cold.

Special thruster team hangs STS-94 plaque

The delicate nature of *Columbia's* microgravity science experiments led a special team to develop new techniques that earned it the honor of hanging the STS-94 plaque in Mission Control.

"During the first flight of the Spacehab payload on STS-83, one of the forward vernier thruster began cooling off since the software did not require it to fire very often in holding attitude," said Lead Flight Director Rob Kelso. "There was concern that this thruster may get cold enough where it might begin to leak and the larger, primary thrusters would have to be used. Use of the primary thrusters would certainly impact science for the orbiting lab."

Kelso appointed a special team after STS-83 to look at options for STS-94.

The team—Shuttle Pointer Scott Patano, Ray Barrington of Draper Labs and Guidance Navigation and Control Officer Kevin Dunn—developed a new technique to minimize the impacts to the microgravity science lab in the event vernier thruster became cold. Barrington performed a pre-flight analysis on a new technique in which two aft, side-firing vernier thrusters would be deselected to increase the frequency of vernier thruster firings...keeping this forward thruster warmer.

"This new technique was used for most of the flight on STS-94 with great success, resulting in great science for STS-94," Kelso said.

Patano was the honored team member who climbed the ladder and hung the STS-94 plaque while Barrington and Dunn held the ladder.

Akers leaves, Precourt joins Director's staff

Astronaut Tom Akers has returned to the Air Force and Charlie Precourt will take his place as JSC's acting assistant director, technical

Akers a four-time shuttle veteran has returned to the Air Force after a 10-year career with NASA. Akers has been named commander of the U.S. Air Force ROTC Detachment 442 at the University of Missouri, Rolla. He is an alumnus of the University, graduating in 1975 with a master of science degree in applied mathematics.

Dave Leestma, director of Flight Crew Operations said: "We will miss him from both a personal and professional standpoint."

Selected as an astronaut in 1987, Akers has accumulated more than 800 hours of space flight, including 29

hours performing space walks. His first flight was on board *Discovery* for STS-41 in October 1990. On his second flight—STS-49 in May 1992—Akers performed two space walks, including a three-person

space walk to rescue the stranded Intelsat VI satellite. He flew next on STS-61 in December 1993 as a space walking crew member on the first mission to service the

Hubble Space Telescope. His most recent flight on board *Atlantis*, on the STS-79 Mir docking in September 1996. Following STS-79, Akers joined the JSC Director George Abbey's staff.

Charlie Precourt earned a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy and masters degrees in engineering management and national security affairs/strategic studies. He joined NASA as an astronaut in July 1991 and has flown as a mission specialist on STS-55, as pilot on STS-71 and commander on STS-84.



Akers



Precourt

Tight game decides Gilruth Center soccer championship

The Bimbos employed a stifling defense to capture the Gilruth soccer title for the third straight season.

The title came after a shoot-out victory over the Photon Torpedoes in the semi-final and a tight 1-0 win over Liverpool in the title game.

In the semi-final, both the Bimbos and Torpedoes played defensively, allowing few

scoring chances and resulting in a 0-0 score after regulation. A scoreless overtime resulted in a shoot-out between the two teams. Both teams made two of five penalty shots—with Bimbos goals by Todd Hinkel and Mike McFarlane and Torpedoes goals by Jason Mendell and Kevin Holt—sending the shoot-out into sudden death. Shannan Staats, captain of the Bimbos, then convert-

ed her penalty shot, and Mike McFarlane, who played keeper for the Bimbos during the shoot-out, stopped his fourth straight shot to seal the victory.

The title game was a defensive battle throughout. Fatigue was a factor due to the intense heat and the fact that both teams had just come off of semi-final victories. Neither team was able to mount a sustained

offensive attack, but Matt Lindsey converted for the Bimbos on a free kick just outside of the 18-yard line midway through the second half.

The Bimbos held off a couple of late scoring chances by Liverpool, but the Bimbos defense, anchored by keeper Derek Kirby, recorded their second straight shut-out to seal the championship.

Dates & Data

Aug. 16

NTA meets: The National Technical Association will meet at 10 a.m. Aug.16 at Texas Southern University, School of Technology, Rm. 316. For more information, contact Pam Denkins x35272.

Aug. 18

ISO seminar: The Victoria Group, Inc. presents a seminar on ISO 9000 at 8 a.m. Aug. 18 at the Silver Moon Café at Space Center Houston. Lee Norbraten, JSC's director of the ISO 9000 office, will discuss: "ISO 9000: Building a System for Life." For more information call 1-800-845-0567.

Aug. 20

Spaceland Toastmasters meet: The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. Aug. 20 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For details, call Jeannette Darcy at x45752.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators will meet at

11:30 a.m. Aug. 20 at the Lockheed Martin, 555 Forge River Road. For detail, contact Richard Lehman at (281) 538-1854.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 20 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For details, call Patricia Blackwell at 282-4302 or Brian Collins at x35190.

Scuba club meets: The Lunarflins will meet at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Redfish Restaurant under the Kemah/Seabrook bridge, Seabrook side. For more information call Fred Toole at x33201.

Aug. 21

Directors meet: The Space Family Education board of directors will meet at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 21 in Bldg. 45, Rm. 712D. For more information on this open meeting call Gretchen Thomas at x37664.

Reservations due: The Space City-Houston Chapter of the National Contract Management

Association will host a luncheon workshop at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 21 at the Gilruth Center. Cost is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Reservations are due Aug. 15. For more information call Linda Dunn at x45351.

Aug. 23

Open house: JSC will open its doors to the public from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 23. For more information call John Lawrence at x35111.

Aug. 27

Spaceland Toastmasters meet: The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. Aug. 27 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For more information, call Jeannette Darcy at x45752.

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Aug. 28

Radio club meets: The JSC Amateur Radio Club will meet at 7 p.m. August 28 at Piccadilly Cafeteria, 2465 Bay Area Blvd. For details call Larry Dietrich at 39198.

Sept. 4

Warning system test: The site-wide Employee Warning System will undergo its monthly audio test at noon Sept. 4. For more information call Bob Gaffney at x34249.

Sept. 8

Thermal and fluids workshop: The Engineering Directorate will host the eighth annual Thermal and Fluid Analysis Workshop from Sept. 8-13 at the University of Houston Clear Lake. For more information call Carlos Ortiz at x38879.

Sept. 9

NPMA meets: The National Property Management Association will meet at 5 p.m. Sept. 9 at Robinette and Doyle Caterers, 216 Kirby in Seabrook. Dinner costs \$14. For details call Sina Hawsey at x36582.

Aero club meets: The Bay Area Aero Club will meet at 7 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266 in League City. For more information call Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

Sept. 10

MAES meets: The Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists will meet at 11:30 p.m. Sept. 10 in the Bldg. 3 cafeteria. For more information call G.D. Valle at x38835.

PSI meets: The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of Professional Secretaries International will meet at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 10 at the Holiday Inn, NASA Road 1. Dinner costs \$15. For details call Elaine Kemp at x30556.